

SECURITY INFORMATION

24 September 1952

MEMORANDUM

Subject: Scrutiny Debriefing

To : ()

From : ()

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3020
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

I. Documentations:

(a) The Leter Njoftim is still reported to be the only document that is required for identification. However, source reported that all Leter Njoftims were called in by the government sometime in early 1952 for examination. The same cards were reissued with a notation of date and stamp of approval. The Leter Njoftims were called back to the original issuing office. The type of stamp used or the page that stamp may have been placed on was unknown. Source received the information about Leter Njoftims from their families.

(b) There is no new information concerning the Libreza Ustarak. Source had, however, seen two Libreza Ustarak, both having yellow covers. One had been issued to a NCO, the other to a private. Nothing more was known, that would tend to throw some light on the question of various colored covers.

(c) Fronti cards, according to source, have been changed from time to time. The latest change having taken place in early 1952. What specific changes had been made were unknown to source.

(d) Ration cards are still issued only to those persons who are considered to be pro-government. Priority, of course, going to government workers.

II. Communists or Communist Sympathizers in the Area of Operations:

(a) DUKAT

1. Ali Sulemani	Secretary of Localitet
2. Zan Bala	Employed by State Coop.
3. Adem Betre	Employed by State Coop.
4. Ali Foto	Member of the Council
5. Miale Kali	Secretary of People's Council
6. Ali Meta	Member of the Council
7. Balil Nazia	Member of the Council
8. Husni Bogani	Member of the Council
9. Dazari Vangili	Member of the Council
10. Sacheri Havari	Tax Collector
11. Yamp Ibro	Policeman
12. Usaeer Nazari	Policeman
13. Hito Ibro	Policeman
14. Lache Vangili	Member of the Council
15. Cherches Veliau	Member of Council

(b) TRIBISH

1. Hito Ramo

Member of the Village Council

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2. Osman Shute
3. Hali Troca
4. Murat Shaban
5. Beqaz Suleman
6. Ahmet Lushe

Secretary of the Council

(c) RATEN

1. Bajram Valiu
2. Shager Ruko
3. Etem Roko

(d) NEVICH - KRUELESH

1. Jafar Gjino
2. Murtizan Diako
3. Demo Hodja

III. N.C.F.A. Activities

(a) According to source the N.C.F.A. has been heard of and maintains a great deal of respect among the population. Nothing derogatory was heard about any individual leader in the N.C.F.A.

(b) BGEgood; source had heard from friends that food had been dropped in the Logurat-Dukat area. Items dropped were rice, sugar, and other eatables. Some persons were able to keep the items, however, this was possible only in isolated areas.

(c) On 28 July a plane dropped leaflets and miniature newspapers.

IV. Feelings toward and Activities of Other Elements:

(a) Yugoslavia. There is no sympathy for the Yugoslav movement in subjects' area of operation.

(b) Greece. There is a strong hatred toward the Greeks. Source claims that Greek teams had entered the area claiming to be working for the N.C.F.A. and enjoying Anglo-American backing. The people fear Greece desires territorial gains at the expense of Albania. There is a strong feeling among the population of this area that they would join hands with the Communists to prevent Greece from taking territory.

(c) Russia. Source reports that some Russian missions have been replaced by Bulgarians. Where and when is not known. There is nothing but ill feeling toward the Russians.

V. Arms:

(a) Only Party members are armed. Source knew nothing about issuing of arms to various villages.

(b) Permission to carry arms must be received from the Sigurimi.

In the case of shepherds permission is usually granted.

(c) Source felt that food arms and ammo could be hidden safely, however, it was believed that this could be carried out just prior to an outbreak.

VI. Communications:

(a) Radios are allowed among the population but they must be registered. The N.C.F.A. program has been heard and source reports that it has a good effect on the population.

(b) Source reports that only emergency telephone calls are allowed and they are under control.

(c) Telegraph offices are open and operate, however, permission is required to send cables.

(d) Source reports that all mail is censored. This is, of course, a contradiction of previous reports which indicate that only spot censoring is carried on.

VII. Travel:

Source states that no prior permission is required to purchase a ticket for travel. After purchasing the ticket a person is required to wait until the manifest has been checked by the Sigurimi.

VIII. Airdromes:

It was stated by source that in early 1952 forced laborers filled 46 holes in the Vlore airfield. No airplanes have been reported at Vlore. Russian trained pilots, however, have been seen. Only one plane is believed to be present in Tirana.

IX. Money.

(a) Present rate is 36 lek to the dollar. Dollars may be exchanged at any bank if the person making the exchange can show a letter with name and address of sender and postmarked in the U.S.

(b) Source reports that if lek were available their mission would be easier to carry out.

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Attachment #2 to

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SCRUTINY. Reply to Questionnaire

1. Q: Names of officers and civilians in high positions who would cooperate with the Committee in certain circumstances, and in what circumstances?

A: Their names cannot be known with accuracy, as those who are dissatisfied with the regime do not reveal this, except perhaps to some of their own people whom they trust, since the Government's counter-espionage net is very strong. For this reason all such people are held to be supporters of the regime. There are officers and civil servants in lower positions who are dissatisfied but these also do not talk and they would cooperate with the Committee only if the latter's activity were intensified, that is to say when they saw some force on which they could rely for support.

2. Q: What is the attitude of the above towards assistance from the West or from Yugoslavia?

A: In view of the reply to Question 1., this cannot be answered. So far as the people are concerned they look to the West.

3. Q: Recent changes in the Coastal forces, and new measures; call-up of troops and military weapons.

A. There have been no changes in the Coastal forces. The headquarters of the Coastal Brigade is still at Durres and of a battalion at Valona. This year, however, these forces in this area have shown greater activity and the seaward side of the mountain has been reinforced. These troops carry German weapons.

These coastal security forces not only guard the coast but take internal security measures; they patrol the coastal villages and join in pursuit of rebels with the Police and Special Battalion where the latter exists.

The Special Battalion is concerned only with the pursuit of rebels and is an independent unit. There is none in Scrutiny's area.

Conscripts are called up according to age-class. Those sent to the Army serve two years, and those in the Coastal Defence Forces three years.

Those of greater age who have not done military service are also called up and serve for three months a year for three consecutive years. They are issued with Russian weapons.

Conscripts coming from families classified as kulaks or enemies of the people are not given weapons but kept in work camps.

The men of the Special Battalion are regulars and paid. There are some paid regulars also in the Coastal Defence force.

There is no knowledge of any change in the Coastal Artillery Brigade since last year.

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4. Q: Relations between Hoxha and Shehu and particulars of their friends.

A: These relations are said to be not good, but it should be emphasized that this is due to the ~~egoism of both~~ and not because either wishes

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to pursue a different road. Both support and are supported by the Russians.

Cases have occurred where a member of the Government or of a provincial Committee has turned against the regime, and both have joined in degrading or removing him without regard to whether he was a supporter of one or the other.

5. Q: Arrival of ships, and exports and imports.

A: We know only about Valona. Italian ships constantly arrive to take off oil and bitumen. The Ujt E Ftoft (Krienero) delivery point is still used for oil. We cannot believe that any quantity of oil is taken off at Durres because there is no pipeline to that port and it could not pay to transport oil there by other means.

Sometimes Czechoslovak, Rumanian and Bulgarian ships arrive at Valona. The people only see the unloading of a ship when the cargo is commercial, such as grain, manufactures, domestic utensils and oddments, or building materials and machinery for Kocove, Pates or for the new factories being built. It is said that on many occasions Army and Security troops have unloaded ships at night with no civilian assistance and using their military vehicles. From this the receipt of military material is assumed, without any knowledge of type or amount.

6. Q: Attitude of Party Members

A: There are various categories of members:

(a) There are those who have been members and have been removed. They do not express themselves either for or against the Party as they are under surveillance.

(b) There are old Party members who have been left on one side and do not work with any enthusiasm.

(c) There are young people who have been recently made members and these are determined Communists

The Party makes use of the young, raises them up to high positions and exploits their keenness. When it sees that they are growing tired it removes them from responsibility and replaces them by others, and so it goes on. There must, therefore, be a substantial body of members or former members who are discontented.

7. Q: Information regarding Radio Tirana.

A: No information on this, nor on local relay stations.

8. Q: New construction of roads, bridges, factories, etc.

A: (a) Lenin hydro-electric station is still providing light for Tirana and no further afield.

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- (b) the cotton plants at Fier and Rrogozhine are in operation
- (c) The rice husking plant at Valona is operating.
- (d) The cement plan at Mesovum, Valona is being erected. The site is at the foot of the hill on which Kanine stands and near the road, Valone-Kanine.
- (e) The oil refinery at Cerrik, near Elbasan, is in course of construction and will be a long job.
- (f) The Mati hydro-electric station is in course of construction and it is believed it will take years to complete.
- (g) A small power-station (thermal) is in course of construction at Erseke.

9. Q: Information regarding V.A.I.N.

- A. Nothing is known of this; it is not believed to exist at Valona airport. This airport is not used and appears to have no installations and has been neglected.

Other Items of Information

- 10. At Valona and Saseno and on the Karaburun peninsula are the same troops as last year. No changes have been made.
- 11. Some Bulgarian technicians have come to Albania and there are some at Valona. It is presumed that these have replaced Russians, but there is no evidence that Russian officers or technicians have been set away on a large scale.
- 12. In the Valona area recently civilian identity cards have been inspected and stamped for further validity.
- 13. The government's power is maintained largely by the use of local Party members as spies. This system has been intensified and is very strong.